



Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes 5/5/2021

Commented [1]:

Attendance: Betsy Mc Ilvaine (Chair), Steve Harding Sr., Nancy Power, Lorraine Kelly, Ellen Melville, Sue Balla, Elaine Tomanio, Kevin McCaffrey Patty Buchan, Jo-Ann Gargiulo

Absent: Emily Mc Padden, Sue Slater

Had Quorum and meeting was on Zoom

No Public Comment

Meeting Minutes accepted

Senior Center

Tai Chi operating successfully on Zoom

Some classes are starting slowly

Self-registration is important and encouraged, technology is important for contact information

Classes are starting inside

Social Services

Renters rebate very popular

Electricity assistance has been expanded due to change in threshold

SNAP will be operational at Farmers Market

Lions Clubs interested in helping with SNAP at Farmers Market

Coupons are also going to be available

Charity Tracker is a tool being used to streamline documentation

Food Pantry open to all people with no limitations, operates every Tuesday

This relaxing of limits will help Seniors

Food donations and Volunteers have been terrific

Brooks Quarry

Still some openings, paperwork is being process

Waiting for some services to be available

Sidewalk Project will get underway, very large project

Old Business

FISH program reopened in April

Drivers are willing to drive

13 calls with 2 rides being provided (many cancellations)

Need a two day notice

New Business

What direction should we take as a commission

Should the focus be on affordable housing targeted to Seniors

Common issue is that seniors have no place to relocate

Not enough Senior Housing (Affordable 1/3 of income toward housing)

Brooks Quarry is low income housing but not section 8

Section 8 Housing voucher are hard to get but makes living in Laurel Hill affordable

Laurel Hill is affordable but not low income

Brookfield Village has some affordable housing with a very long waiting list

HUD or CHAFA needed

COVID has provided more funding going into housing

Availability of Senior Affordable Housing

Next Meeting 7/7/21